

MEDIA RELEASE

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Barunga wins the Territory's Tidiest Town Awards for 2009

The community of Barunga, (Roper Gulf Shire), is the winner of the Keep Australia Beautiful Council Northern Territory, Territory Tidy Towns Awards 2009, announced this afternoon at Government House by His Honour Mr Tom Pauling AO QC, Administrator of the Northern Territory,.

The Award recognises the Community of Barunga for its proactive and constructive approach to sustainability and successfully engaging individuals, community groups, business and school in a wide range of social and environmental projects and initiatives that have benefitted the community.

In addition to winning the overall title, the Community of Barunga also picked up the award for Best Medium Community category.

Community residents of Barunga were congratulated by His Honour, The Administrator, on their success.

KABC(NT) CEO Mr Heimo Schober said, "Barunga has been evolving from a remote community into a town. Barunga is right up there with Jabiru and Adelaide River. What is really evident in Barunga is the high level of pride, drive, self determination and high self esteem. It is these attributes and indicators that signalled an up and coming Tidy Town community and today Barunga can take honour and pride in the title as 'Territory's Tidiest Town for 2009'.

"Underpinning Barunga's win was a combination of these attributes and their comprehensive approach to creating the more beautiful and sustainable community of Barunga. They have successfully combined a strong vision, holistic and inclusive planning, plus effective on-ground actions to achieve real results and today we recognise and acknowledge their efforts."

The Mac Donnell Range Holiday Parks proactive Water Wastage Control Program and related actions and activities earned them the Water Conservation Award, sponsored by Grundfos Pumps.

KABC(NT) CEO, Mr Heimo Schober said, "It's fantastic to see Territory businesses initiating proactive water conservation initiatives. We hope others across the Territory can take some inspiration from these initiatives to better manage their own water resources."

Wadeye's 'litter control' program and activities this year has earned them the 'Litter Prevention' award, sponsored by the Packaging Stewardship Forum. The community implemented plans that raised Wadeye's 'Litter Rating Index' from 0 to 70 within one year.

KABC(NT) CEO Mr Heimo Schober said, “Wadeye is one of the better news story from the Tidy Towns program this year. To purchase and introduce wheelie bins to a community for the first time ever, to purchase a new kerbside service truck and then implement the whole kerbside waste management system totalling some \$250k was an excellent achievement, more so given that the capital funding was obtained from the near by gas plant Eni in partnership with the Shire and their Government Business Manager, the Northern Territory Government was not required to provide any funding of the project. This particular project has achieved a fantastic reduction in ground litter at Wadeye.”

The Territory Tidy Towns Awards recognise efforts by residents, community groups, businesses and all levels of government to strive for a sustainable and litter free environment. The 2009 Awards were sponsored by Packaging Stewardship Forum ‘Do the Right Thing’ program; Grundfos Pumps and the Northern Territory Government (Environment Grants).

Further information about the Territory Tidy Towns Awards can be found at www.kabcnt.org.au

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Keep Australia Beautiful Territory Tidy Towns Awards Recipients 2009

Category	Winner	Sponsor
Overall Winner	Barunga	Packaging Stewardship Forum Northern Territory Government
Community Group Partnership Projects	Ngukurr	Packaging Stewardship Forum
‘Dame Phyllis Frost’ Litter Prevention	Wadeye	Packaging Stewardship Forum ‘Do The Right Thing’ program
Resource Recovery	Naiyu	Packaging Stewardship Forum ‘Do the Right Thing’ program
Best Small Town	Adelaide River	Packaging Stewardship Forum Northern Territory Government
Best Medium Town	Barunga	Packaging Stewardship Forum Northern Territory Government
Best Large Town	Jabiru	Packaging Stewardship Forum Northern Territory Government
Water Conservation	Mac Donnell Range Holiday Park	Grundfos Pumps
Best School	Peppimenarti School	Packaging Stewardship Forum ‘Do The Right Thing’ program
Best Roadhouse	Threeways Roadhouse	Packaging Stewardship Forum ‘Do The Right Thing’ program

Full details for each entrant can be found at <http://www.kabcnt.org.au/programs/territorytidytowns/>